

Testimony of Gregory B. Allard, Vice President
American Ambulance Service, Inc. &
Association of Connecticut Ambulance Providers

Public Health Committee

Friday, March 14, 2014

Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee.

My name is Greg Allard and I am the Vice President of American Ambulance Service, Inc. located in Norwich, CT and of the Association of CT Ambulance Providers.

The Association of CT Ambulance Providers includes companies that provide emergency medical services to approximately 200,000 patients annually. Our membership provides care in over 35 municipalities and offers mutual aid to an additional 50 municipalities. These urban and suburban municipalities include areas such as East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Middletown, Meriden, Waterbury and Torrington. The estimated population served is over 800,000. Our mobile integrated healthcare team has a network of 136 ambulances and includes approximately 1600 professionals that we employ. In addition to the patient care we provide we are all very active in our communities.

My testimony today is in favor of ***Raised Bill No. 5537, An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes.***

The Association of CT Ambulance Providers supports the Department of Public Health in their decision to revise the various statutes that involve EMS in this bill. This bill has many sections and the specific sections we support include Section 12 and Sections 18-28.

Section 12 will give EMS services greater flexibility in the vehicle inspection process. This will be a great benefit.

Section 18-28 touch on a variety of issues that include strike contingency plans, the forward movement of patients plan as it pertains to certified ambulance service billing for non-emergency transportation during a disaster, removing oversight on management service organizations, defining paramedic intercept services, and inter-facility critical care transports.

All of these revisions provide clarity to a complicated system. In our opinion that is a good thing.

This is why we support this bill and that we are asking you to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory B. Allard